



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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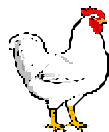
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices trended lower in the West, but unchanged in other major terminal markets. Trade sentiment was mostly steady to about steady. Demand was seasonal and selective as traders assess further market developments. Supplies of all sizes were limited but fully adequate to available for trade requirements. In the parts structure, movement was generally light and unaggressive. Supplies of all items were adequate to ample, although increased interest was noted on b/s breast and fronts. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were in a full range.

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), for the week ending 19-Nov-05, broiler egg sets were up 1% and chick placements were up 1% when compared to a year ago. Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 31-Dec-2005 is estimated at 151.6 million head.

**Preliminary report** Prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 28-NOV-2005 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	56.00-59.00	45.00-72.50	58.62	26
New York	58.00-61.00			
Los Angeles	79.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	69.00-72.00	45.00-73.00	70.89	81

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 72.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

### PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
879	68.59-73.50	72.09

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice-packed parts:

ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	146.00	976
BREASTS - B/S	117.50	4,848
BREASTS - WHOLE	66.00	1,073
THIGH MEAT - B/S	101.50	861
LEG QUARTERS	36.50	5,828
WINGS	80.50	2,369

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices were unchanged in Chicago compared to Monday's final majority. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Offerings were light. Retail demand was light to fair at best. Food service trade remained mixed, slow to fairly good; best into fast food and restaurants. Floor stocks for the most part were in balance with sizes desirable. Trade on parts was generally inactive as several industry participants were away for the holiday or had previously booked current needs for the week. Offerings were light overall. The trade sentiment was about steady on wings, steady to weak on breasts cuts and mostly weak on dark meat lines.

**SOUTHERN BROILER** Trade sentiment was cautiously steady in the East and Midwest, but weak in the West. Prices on whole product were trending lower in the West, but unchanged in other major terminal market areas. Demand was seasonal as buyers assess holiday movement and next week anticipated needs. Supplies of all sizes were sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules for this week were reduced for the holiday. In the parts structure, movement was slow to fair, although interest improved on b/s breast, fronts and jumbo wings. Overall, supplies of all items were in balance to available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** The preliminary majority prices were 1 cent lower. Trade sentiments was barely steady to weak. Trading reported for next week's delivery was light and at mainly lower prices. Offerings were ample overall. Most producers and distributors were either closed or worked reduced schedules due to the Thanksgiving's day holiday. Buying activity was light. Retailer demand was generally fair. Dealers anticipated moderate to occasionally heavy weekend carryovers.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally light and unaggressive as many dealers were missing from the marketplace due to the holiday. Offerings of all sizes were fully sufficient for the light and selective buyer interest. Retail and distributive movement was light. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were at least adequate; bone-in breasts were readily available and competitively priced. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate to fully adequate current trade needs. Wings were at least adequate.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of read-to-cook whole birds was light and unaggressive with many sellers and buyers absent from the marketplace due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Offerings varied, but were fully sufficient for prompt delivery. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were heavy when combined with spot operations planned on Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 59 to 72 cents. Trade sentiment was only about steady, but reflected an increase in confidence in spots where sellers anticipated buyers looking to restock coolers and upcoming first of the month activity. Parts were at least adequate.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

### BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	52-75
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
CUMULATIVE	11/21/05 - 11/25/05 (A)
	11/22/04 - 11/26/04 (A)
NO. OF BOXES	11/21/05 - 11/25/05 (A)
	11/22/04 - 11/26/04 (A)

(A) NOT REPORTED TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY POUNDS (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	TOO FEW TO REPORT				2,536	98.57
TENDERLOINS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				677	93.08
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				304	71.45
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				180	48.67
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				696	35.02
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	TOO FEW TO REPORT				2,476	25.37
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	TOO FEW TO REPORT				4,050	26.47
WINGS (WHOLE)	*TOO FEW TO REPORT*				1,222	76.46
WINGS (CUT)	*TOO FEW TO REPORT*				900	93.87
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				295	35.56
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				249	33.54
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				216	94.00

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR NOVEMBER 25, 2005 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
TOO FEW TO REPORT		37.06

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** - Trucklot buying activity was light and unaggressive entering the weekend. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts were at least sufficient; bone-in breast remained readily available and often discounted to clear excess supplies. Dark meat cuts and wings were fully adequate. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally light to no better than fair. The market tone was weak for bone-in breasts; no better than steady for boneless skinless breasts. The balance of items were mostly about steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY WTD AVG	WEEKLY VOLUME/LBS
BREAST - B/S	105-110	100.70	590,000	101.76	2,478,360
TENDERLOINS	95-100	97.60	121,240	102.25	514,320
BREAST - WITH RIBS	55-56	67.40	78,240	65.37	305,200
BREAST - LINE RUN	55	53.71	63,000	53.76	284,400
LEGS	45-46	51.31	148,600	47.96	719,180
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	27-28	28.73	283,120	27.71	1,266,840
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	42.57	72,840	39.11	375,920
THIGHS	34-35	46.65	41,800	45.92	173,210
B/S THIGHS	95-96	90.36	48,000	94.17	549,080
WINGS (WHOLE)	78-79	77.20	154,520	79.24	734,440
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.19	27,840	11.35	101,600
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	50-55	49.01	23,662	50.41	92,637
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	70-75	74.76	20,320	74.78	80,040

\*\*\*\*\* INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	AVG WT	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	11/25 11/24	11/23 11/20	11/23 11/20	11/18 11/16	
Alabama	4,038 Holiday	3,663 3,934	5.19 5.43	3,944 5.36	
Arkansas	4,657 Holiday	4,603 5,058	5.25 5.31	5,435 5.21	
Delmarva	2,510 Holiday	2,222 2,274	5.80 5.87	2,124 5.92	
KY-LA-TN	2,134 Holiday	2,161 2,327	4.99 5.05	2,551 4.71	
Mississippi	1,953 Holiday	2,591 2,887	5.29 5.41	3,081 5.20	
North Carolina	3,177 Holiday	2,428 2,489	6.75 6.80	2,898 6.96	
Texas	2,145 Holiday	2,499 2,460	5.28 5.34	2,434 5.27	
Total	20,614 Holiday	20,167 21,429	5.46 5.55	22,467 5.45	
Mon-Fri	85,062(A)			107,401(A)	
Saturday	2,600 (included in total for date shown)			3,207	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 25-Nov-05 and 26-Nov-05 is estimated to be 30,841,000 head down 8.52 percent from a week ago and up 29.29 percent from a year ago. (Last week 33,714,000, last year 23,855,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 26-Nov-05 is estimated to be 125,964,000 head down 23.01 percent from a week ago, and up 7.01 percent from a year ago. (Last week 163,621,000, last year 117,717,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	99-107
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	65-73
DUCKS	-
RABBITS WHOLE	-
CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	114
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-107
HENS OVER 5#	118
DUCKS	100-112
	109
	90-105
	185-188

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 12-NOV-05 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs. & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs.	5.26 Lbs. & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----			
Head	25,144	18,722	53,813
Avg Weight	3.76	4.76	6.62
% of total /1	26%	19%	55%
Comparisons			
Last week	25,072	18,919	53,677
Avg Weight	3.85	4.79	6.46
% of total /1	26%	19%	55%
Same week, yr ago /2	25,919	20,132	44,675
Avg Weight	3.77	4.71	6.46
% of total /1	29%	22%	49%

To date/2005 1,215,897 974,441 2,273,257

To date/2004 1,172,418 961,843 2,077,709

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION** (Preliminary)

W/E 19-Nov-2005	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
Head	163,621	1,427	1,444	2,871	526
Avg Wt	5.46	3.37	8.45	5.93	6.85
Last week	163,999	1,296	1,427	2,723	491
Same wk yr ago	156,060	1,380	1,501	2,881	503
Avg Wt	5.28	3.42	8.01	5.81	6.71
To-date/2005	7,432,403	66,262	65,436	131,698	22,966
To-date/2004	7,230,431	63,169	62,970	126,139	21,629

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 158.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 165.6 million head, or 7.6 million more than estimated available.

**ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/  
FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
October	15 166.7	161.8	103%	5.50
	22 165.8	160.7	103%	5.44
	29 166.6	162.2	103%	5.49
November	5 163.9	161.6	101%	5.47
	12 166.0	160.3	104%	5.53
	19 165.6	158.0	105%	5.46
Year to date	7,522.5	7,556.4	100%	
November	26	157.2		
December	3	157.5		

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

**Under Federal Inspection**

W/E	11/25/05	11/18/05	% CHG	11/26/04	% CHG
-----THOUSANDS-----					
Broilers	125,964	163,621*	-23	117,717*	+07
Cattle	545	592	-.08	468*	+16
Hogs	1,879	2,137	-.12	1,866*	+01

\*ACTUAL

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 21-NOV-2005

**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	149-153	154-158

MIDWEST MOSTLY	132-140	133-141
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**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED, CENTS PER POUND

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	59.00-68.50	62.50-67.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	72.00-86.50	72.00-75.00

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALER PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	63.36-72.90
14 OZ.	69.84-81.00
16 OZ.	74.88-89.10

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was moderate to usually good as the holiday season sparks some additional customer interest. Supplies were in balance to close for current needs. Weights were desirable. Schedules were cut back this week due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$3.50-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.45-1.95, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.50-0.65, livers at \$0.95-1.70, and feet at \$1.00-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, CENTS PER POUND, WEEK OF 27-JUN-2005

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	126-146	128-148

**GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION** -PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED\*\*AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY\*\*

DATE OF AUCTION: NOV 22, 2005

	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.95 - 1.05
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.95 - 1.05
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.10 - .12
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.14 - .18
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.14 - .18
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	.40 - .50
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS	.40 - .45
Guinea Fowl	1.00 - 1.05ea.
Banty Roosters	.75 - 1.00ea.
Banty Hens	.50 - .60ea.
Silkie	2.50 - 2.60ea.
Geese 9-14 LBS	.60 - .80
Pigeons	2.50 - 3.00ea.
White Pigeons	3.75 - 4.00ea.
Rabbits 4-6 LBS	1.05 - 1.15
Rabbits 6-9 LBS	.90 - 1.05
Bunnies	1.00 - 2.00ea.
Guinea Pigs	.50 - 3.00ea.
Doves	2.00 - 3.00ea.
Pullets 4-6 LBS	.45 - .55

Total Coops Sold 320

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Trading was too few to report for heavy canners; unchanged on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to no better than fair for light canners; mostly fair to moderate at best for heavy canners with most available supplies being used internally. Offerings were at least sufficient for current trade needs. Processing schedules were less than normal due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The undertone was steady to about steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
20-29 MAJORITY 24.5-25.5	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
21-31 MAJORITY 26-27	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

#### **LIGHT TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was fair to fairly good for the mostly adequate to about adequate offerings of spent hens. Processing schedules were reduced due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Trade sentiment was steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	3-13	8-9

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Disposal costs were TFEWR. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of spent light fowl. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were only fair. Costs were expected to remain constant.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were mostly unchanged to slightly lower. Offerings were adequate to barely adequate for next week's delivery and caused some slaughter schedules to be cut back due to a lack of available birds. Demand was moderate to good. Trade sentiment steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	0-11	6-9

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plant worked reduced schedules due to the Thanksgiving's Day holiday. Offerings were about adequate.

#### **HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \***

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 25-NOVEMBER-05

**SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was fair to moderate at best for the mostly adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were noted as normal. Sales of finished product were adequate for current needs. The undertone was steady to about steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS** Trading levels were TFEWR. Demand was light for heavy hens at processing operations. Offerings were at least adequate for a fair call for finished product. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was about steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

#### **NEW YORK CITY SEASONAL POULTRY**

FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21, 2005.

**CAPONS:**

Prices were unchanged. Supplies of USDA grade A frozen capons were adequate to close balance. Product booked for December needs will begin shipping next week. Trade sentiment was steady to at least steady.

**DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:**

6-9 LBS.	1.60-1.80	MOSTLY 1.60-1.65
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**GEESE:**

Prices were unchanged when compared to the previous week. Supplies of frozen USDA Grade A geese were adequate for current trade needs. Bookings for December shipments were noted as fair to fairly good. Trade sentiment was about steady to steady.

**DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:**

8-16 LBS.	2.30-2.40
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